

HMS File - Sharon Rogers

UNIT STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION V

DATE: 15 January 1980

SUBJECT: Hazardous waste site visits

FROM: Bob Stone and Hak Cho

Hippers Carline

DRAFT COPY
SUBJECT TO REVISION

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



355965

TO: Jay Goldstein

On December 17 through 19, 1979, Hak Cho and I visited the 4 hazardous waste disposal sites listed below. A Site Inspection Report (EPA Form T2070-3) was prepared for the first 3.

Custom Can Crushers, Inc., Deland, Illinois

This site is an open dump used to store an estimated 1/2 million once-used 5 gallon pesticide cans. The site is in a rural area, and bound by the Sangamon River and farmland. The closest residence is about 1/4 mile away. The site is inactive now, although the gate was wide open on the day of our visit, and a few of the cans looked like they may have been put there recently. Many of the cans have rusted through, releasing unknown amounts of pesticide residues into the surface water. Some of the areas near the cans are completely devoid of vegetation. IEPA has inspected the site on numerous occasions, collected and analyzed samples, and filed a civil complaint (PCB 79-197) against the owner of the site and the former president of the dissolved Custom Can Crushers, Inc. For this reason the Illinois Attorney General has requested that further dissemination of information on this matter be restricted until the complaint is settled.

No action by US EPA is indicated at this time.

Monsanto Company, W. G. Krummrich Plant, Sauget, Illinois

We met with Mr. Paul Heisler, Director of Environmental Control for the Krummrich Plant, and his assistant, Mr. Richard Sinise. They answered our questions in general terms and said that any requests for specific data would have to be made in writing. They said most of the data we mentioned was submitted for the Eckhardt Report. We visited the actual site, which is on company owned property about a mile west of the plant, along the east bank of the Mississippi River. When viewed on December 18, the site had been closed, graded and capped with 3 to 9 feet of clay, then seeded with grass. It looks like a park. However, we could make no assessment of the adequacy of the clay cap or soil characteristics at the site. The finished grade is about 30 feet higher than the normal level of the river. The site isn't protected from flooding.

The earlier reports on this site make it clear that continued monitoring of groundwater will be necessary.

Monsanto now disposes of its chemical wastes from this plant at three locations:

Nuclear Engineering Co., Inc
Sheffield, Illinois

Rollins Environmental Services
2027 Battlegroud Road
Deer Park, Texas

Rollins Environmental Services
13351 Scenic Highway
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Shippers Car Line, East St. Louis, Illinois

We met with Mr. James E. Tyler, Plant Manager. The conditions described in the earlier IEPA reports on this site still exist. However, Ken Mensing, IEPA, said the necessary permits were being processed. There was some concern expressed by the NIOSH inspector that the site is close to the Mississippi River. The proximity to the river is clear in the attached photograph. There is a flood control dike between the site and the river. If the river gets behind the dike, this miniscule site will be the least of our worries. Samples taken by IEPA were found to be some kind of vegetable oil or animal fat. Allegations that "dangerous chemicals" were dumped in the site were not substantiated by lab analysis. The pits in use are indicated by arrows A & B. The larger pit (arrow C) is no longer in use for dumping rinsate.

Further US EPA action is not indicated at this time.

Bliss Waste Oil Company, East St. Louis, Illinois

We met with Mr. Russell Bliss, owner. The site is not a hazardous waste site, rather it is a temporary storage site for used oil. There are 4 storage tanks which are used to keep oil that cannot be delivered immediately to the refinery, such as on week-ends or at night. The typical storage time for the used oil at this site is only a few days according to Mr. Bliss. Nothing is disposed of here. There was some discussion of PCB's in the oil. Mr Bliss told us of an incident in which he was accused of trying to sell PCB-containing oil. He volunteered to give US EPA or IEPA samples of oil from any of his tanks anytime we wanted to check for PCB's.